

# WOMEN QUESTION ANTI-WAR PARADE'S EFFICACY

By DORIS E. FLEISCHMAN.

A GIANT parade, to include representatives of every large city in the country, is being planned by women suffragists. This demonstration is to be a protest against war, a tangible message of sympathy to the mothers of Europe and a plea for peace.

Should has been expressed by some as to the efficacy of this measure to relieve conditions in any manner. The utter skepticism of Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, who believes that only a tremendous catastrophe will serve to put a stop to the warfare that is fostered by a furious and powerful race hatred, has merely served to fire with enthusiasm the other women, who have definite plans.

"What good do you think one little parade in New York, with little echoing parades in other cities, will do now?" demanded Mrs. Catt of the assembled women at a preparatory meeting. "Do you imagine that ten thousand or a hundred thousand women marching in feeble protest will stop these men in whom the furious brute has been unearthed? If you are confident that anything can come as an immediate result of your puny effort you are fully ignorant of the depths of rage hatred that separate these nations one from another."

Nevertheless, it is the opinion of New York women that any protest against unjust conditions is valuable, although they differ among themselves as to what definite remedial action the parade will incite.

## President Should Demand Mediation.

Mrs. Harriot Stanton Blatch feels that the protest should demand from the President the assistance of the other neutral powers to enforce, if necessary, mediation in accordance with the articles of the Hague tribunal of 1899, while Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Lease, of Kansas, another of the organizers, thinks the only solution of the horribly bitter situation is to refuse to send to the warring nations any food or munitions of war and so starve them into submission. The parade should be a pledging of the women of America to this purpose, she said. Other women hope the parade will furnish the necessary public opinion needed to pass a bill now before the national legislature including the European rulers to a mediation conference.

There has been an overwhelming mass of approval for this step of the women. For, runs the comment,

## "Do You Imagine Your Little Parade Will Stop This Furious War?" Demands Mrs. Catt, and Some Answer, "Any Protest Against Unjust Conditions Is Valuable."

women are weary of the eternal symbol of the weeping martyr; they are weary of submission to the curse laid upon them, and shudder at the tremendous burden of labor that strife forces upon their shoulders.

### Nation-wide Protest May Stir European Women.

A nation-wide condemnation of European fury and a plea to European women may stir them to protest, it is hoped; if not now, at least when the decisive moment of great defeat arrives.

American women have flocked to support the only measure which is now available to them. Reports from more than two hundred heads of clubs have stamped approval on the plan. Weeping foreign-born women have signified their anxiety to render all possible assistance in helping along the mammoth protest against this oldtime barbarism.

The parade is to be held August 29. The line will start at 5 p. m., at 50th st. and Fifth av., parading along that street to Union Square. There open-air meetings will be held, so completing the programme.

Communications are in order with every large city in the United States, and it is confidently expected that the response will be inspiring. It is proposed to have a chain of similar parades extending across the continent.

Mrs. Henry Villard is the chairman of the executive committee, composed of two hundred women of note, who feel that no denunciatory action, however limited its influence, is entirely worthless. They have great hopes for the moral effect of their deed.

It is Mrs. Harriot Stanton Blatch who voices most strongly the opposition to what she calls a purposeless protest against war. "This must be a march for civilization, for all that for which the past centuries have labored. These nations are laying themselves open to the most feared contingency of all, the dreaded Yellow Peril. They are not only killing their individual soldiers, destroying the individual homes, wrecking physical and industrial havoc, but they are weakening themselves at the core.

"The strength of civilization, the slow upbuilding of their culture, their scientific advancement, all are endangered, and an outside devastating flood is threatening. It is our duty, our great opportunity, to maintain for ourselves and our children all those advantages which have been our pride."

In her efforts to find some reason for the European situation, and perhaps some remedy, Mrs. Blatch, in her thoroughgoing manner, studied the articles of the Hague tribunal. In this instrument she found the article on arbitration. "But," she said, "it was not compulsory arbitration

maintaining neutral powers of the world to assist him.

"That is what our parade should stand for. We should impress upon the President our earnest desire to have him do his utmost to stop the continuance of this war, which sends women out into industrial battles when

the thought was the only way of putting an end to the strife. The food supply of Europe will soon give out. Their material for clothing will soon be exhausted, and they are depending upon us for these necessities. "We women should march to protest against the sending of anything to them. Not

receivable to one who has not actually seen it. These nations hate each other. We may ascribe one cause or another to an international war, but it is now being upheld by an increasingly violent national loyalty."

Mrs. Catt, a member of the International Council of Women, has seen women of various nations working together, and there has been difficulty even in amicable problems.

"All that we may accomplish is to assemble all the women of the entire nation in protest and enlist the men, and so appeal to the European women and through them the men. But women there dare not protest, for that would be traitorous.

"I dare stand here as prophet and say that peace may come, but only after a stupendous disaster.

"Mr. Steyn, President of the Orange Free State at the time of the Boer War, told me in my visit to South Africa that in one year the women on the farms of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State produced enough food and supplies to maintain the army in the field for three years.

"This remark is brought back to mind by the appeal of Premier Viviani to the women of France. He called on them to complete the work of gathering the crops left unfinished by the men who had been called to arms.

### Woman's Work Now Doubled.

"The wheat," said he, "stands un-reaped and the time of vintage approaches. I ask you to maintain the life of our fields, to finish this year's harvest, and to prepare for that of the next year."

"American tourists flying toward London in their haste to escape from war territory write that on every road in France there were companies of young men to be seen marching to the front, while in every field sobbing women were hard at work doing the work the men had left undone. They needed no appeal from the Premier. French women are already doing what women of all lands have done in war times since the world began—the work of women plus the work of men. With hearts heavy with dread; with none

of the inspiration which comes from crowds, from music, from appeals to patriotism, from hero worship, from love of adventure, they bear the burdens as best they may.

"Without the work of women in field, factory and shop, where they take up the industrial labor men have laid down; without their production of food for the army and tax money to meet the enormous cost of the war any nation would come to an end, though its army were composed entirely of Alexanders and Napoleons.

"Men who have had the gift to analyze conditions free from preconceived theories have long recognized this fact, but it remained for the tragedy of the Boer War to bring a demonstration clear enough for all to see.

"A successful war demands a division of labor, and that of the women is quite as important as that of the men, as some day a thoughtless world will recognize.

"Superficially minded opponents of woman suffrage bring the alleged argument that 'women cannot fight.' They can't fight, and have fought in wars and all down the centuries; but if they go forth to fight, who shall keep the nation going? What is there to fight for?

"Thank God they do not go to the front often! In the calm, sad moments at home they are learning to understand the wasteful cost of war as men have never done, and some day as one woman the motherhood of the world will refuse longer to give their sons to be shot in support of the vagaries of monarchs or false ideals of national honor.

"If the courts are better than duels, if votes are better than pitched battles to settle national difficulties, so are international courts and international parliaments better than war. It is votes women must demand if they would abolish the horrors, the waste, the barbarism of war, and usher in the blessings of peace."

The executive committee for the parade is composed of 200 women, with Miss Lillian Deaver as executive secretary. Working hand in hand with her are Miss Alice Carpenter, Miss Melinda Scott, president of the Women's Trade Union League; Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, Miss Mary Shaw, Mrs. Mildred Manly Easton, Mrs. Julian Heath, Mrs. Clarence Burris, and a host of others. Mrs. John Jacob Astor and Dr. Katharine B. Davis are among the many women who have signified their hearty approval of the parade.



MRS. CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT, WHO WANTS THE PARADE TO BE A MARCH FOR CIVILIZATION, NOT A PURPOSELESS PROTEST AGAINST WAR.

Mrs. Blatch commended the efforts of President Wilson, saying that he had done much to aid matters. But she felt that, had the United States, as a nation, shown more inclination for mediation, he might have done more. "He has done much," she cried, "but he should have gone one step further, and it is now our duty to urge him to accomplish what is in his power."

that was agreed upon, with an international army and navy to enforce its mandate." However, she found something even more valuable in the tribunal's articles of 1899, and that was that forty-six nations had agreed to mediation. "President Wilson offered his services as mediator, but he should take advantage of this document to call upon the re-

It sends men to death. "Women no longer weep in piteous beauty at time of war; they get out and fight. I have no doubt that our demonstration will arouse Mr. Wilson and that he will respond to our request. "Starve Europe Into Good Behavior. Mrs. Lease, in thunderous oratory, delivered her message, and stated what

a ship should be allowed to leave America containing any aid whatsoever to the warring nations. I say that we must starve them into submission."

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt was decisive, but pessimistic. "It is stupefying to come upon sparks of national jealousies in times of peace, as I have done, but in times of war it is incon-

# "Where Are the Women of Yesteryear?" Ask the Suffragists

## They Looked in History Textbooks and Found Them Not, and Now They're After the School Boards and Historians.

"WHERE are the women of yesteryear?" Didn't the women of America play any part in the upbuilding of our country? If they did, why are they not mentioned in the history textbooks? All of which questions forced themselves on the attention of the women of the College Suffrage League of the District of Columbia, with the immediate result that the Board of Education is considering the suitability of having facts concerning the great women of this world incorporated in the school courses on history.

The Women and Children Wept," Says History. She made a systematic search through their history books, and found that few women are mentioned individually, and collectively are mentioned in such connection as "Women and Children Wept." Feeling that no fact of importance should be omitted in the pupils' historical education, she and the suffrage league organized and carried on a plan of agitation which moved the Board of Education to action.

Mrs. James Lees Laidlaw, of the Woman Suffrage party, concurs in the attitude of the Washington and New Jersey women, for records show any number of women who deserve a place beside men on the printed page, she thinks.

"They have been omitted because the state has dictated the attitude of the authors on the subject, for the state has said 'Women do not count in affairs of the world,' and the historians have obeyed this mandate. Where they are mentioned, it is generally for trivial causes. But histories of to-day will have to be radically different, for they must contain accounts of women and their doings, for this is the most revolutionary movement, probably, that has ever occurred."

Those Who Are Mentioned. Mrs. Laidlaw spoke of Dr. Clara Ludlow and Miss Hill, who found that in Montgomery's History for various school grades women were mentioned as absurdly limited number of times—Queen Elizabeth, Pocahontas, Molly Pitcher, Lady Elizabeth Carteret, for whom Elizabethtown was named, a Quaker missionary, who was hanged. The movement started when Miss Hill, teacher of French in the Washington

though it was she who started this great industry, no further mention of her was made.

The same volume states briefly that Wyoming, Colorado, Utah and Idaho have granted suffrage rights to women, but of the many separate individual workers there is no word. Anne Hutch-

inson, first in the New World to advocate liberty of speech, is afforded but a paragraph or two, and Mrs. Laidlaw concluded: "Kate Stoneman, the first woman admitted to the New York bar; Mrs. Antoinette Stone Blackwell, the first to take orders as minister, and many others are figures whose histori-

cal importance should be taught to the student and entered into the textbooks as a lesson to future historians. I am sure that all that can be accomplished by individual women to properly adjust the balance will be done, for it is a very worthy cause."

Miss Grace Strachan declares she has never noticed that women have been slighted historically, and feels that had women actually done anything notable they would have found their way into our histories. "Of course," she amended, "there may have been many of whom I have not heard, and if it is a fact they were at all instru-

## Washington, D. C., Is Considering a Revision of the Textbooks to Include Women Who Helped Build America.

mental in the carrying out of public affairs, we should learn about them."

Think Women Have Been Slighted. Mrs. Dennett and Mrs. Blatch feel that women have been slighted. There have been great women, and they have been ignored because history, too, is man-made. "Which is all right," commented Mrs. Dennett, "but when half of us are of no account, it is annoying though humorous."

"But," objected Mrs. Blatch, when she was approached, "it seems much better to work from the other end of the wire. When we have officially entered into public life, then we must be recognized officially by writers."

"The suffrage organizations, as such, have no time to devote to such minor pursuits. We are trying too hard and too consistently for success in our main issue to allow ourselves to swerve aside for what is bound to come as a result of our large triumph."

### Don't Want Women Compared to Washington.

"And besides," said Mrs. Dennett, whose clear sense of proportion is refreshing, "we do not want any of our women compared to Washington. We have had no General Lees, or Henry Clays, and who are the women who may be classed with the men that have gone to make up our history? There have been distinguished women, but they would be clearly out of place in the ordinary textbook."

These books have fearsome lists of dates and battles. To the mind of the child who must study them nothing ever happened but heroic actions of states, in which every one was exclusively interested. The world grew up, fed on a series of wars, and each battle decided a new epoch in the world's development. Nobody but the heroic few and the "people" existed. There were a few great writers, a few great inventors, and the rest governed the nations, composed of a vague class called the "governed," who were

noticed only in time of revolution and great protest.

It is but recently that we have come to the realization that it is this very governed class that makes up the sum total of the nation. "It is the homely interests, the daily pursuits, the popular trend of thought that makes for evolution," says James Harvey Robinson, historian, who talks of the new history, which shall include all this in its scope.

"Women have featured in public matters of the important and previously unhistoric type, but they have not held a prominent place often in other affairs."

"That is why women are not found in the school books. Nor can we insert them for the sake of 'justice' without ruining the entire plan of the writings. There is not much place for them and their doings in these books, for affairs such as they conducted are not in the field of inquiry of elementary histories, whether the affairs are under the supervision of men or women."

"The only way to escape this dilemma is to reform the teaching of history and put in the study more of the things that will be of actual benefit and interest. We want to know the conditions under which people lived during the Seven Years' War. We want to know what the people thought when they weren't making Magna Charta, how greatly a social revolution changed the mode of life, work and play of the masses. When we have these things women will find their place in the annals as a matter of course, and it is to be hoped that this will soon come to pass."

LADIES, ATTENTION! 6 and 7 Large Rooms and Bath. Rent Reduced. \$10 to \$15. 608 West 121st St. Near Riverside Drive and 171st St. Subway Station. RICK & SHARROTT. 2008 B'y. nr. 34 St. Phone 1740 River.

HARRY TURNER AGENCY 371 LEXINGTON AVE. Tel. Murray Hill 3509. Formerly with Lida A. Seely, Male & Female. References Investigated and on file.

LIDA A. SEELY, INC. MALE AND FEMALE EMPLOYMENT AGENCY. 33 W. 33d ST. PHONE 3392 PLAZA.

## ARE WOMEN PEOPLE?

By ALICE DUER MILLER

### THE SHELTERED SEX.

"If," says Petrus Novallissius, "our young soldiers going to war had had as much experience in facing death as their mothers had, they would be reckoned veterans."

### THAT EXPANDING SPHERE.

The French government has called on the women of France to complete the harvesting of the crops.

"It suggests a respect in which this war may be far less disastrous than many have feared... To a considerable extent women will be able to replace men in the factories... A good portion of women will naturally still be necessary in domestic fields, but the number can be much reduced in order to put an active working army into the factories."—Editorial, Boston Transcript, August 8.

This is a frank admission that: Women's lives are as much affected by war as men's. Woman's place is in the home only until the business interests of a country need her in the factory.

### WOMEN.

(With rather insouciant apologies to Mr. Rudyard Kipling.)

I went to ask my government if they would set me free, They gave a pardoned crook a vote, but hadn't one for me! The men about me laughed and frowned and said: "Go home, because We really can't be bothered when we're busy making laws."

Oh, it's "women this," and "women that," and "women have no sense," But it's "pay your taxes promptly" when it comes to the expense, It comes to the expense, my dears, it comes to the expense, It's "pay your taxes promptly" when it comes to the expense.

I went into a factory to earn my daily bread:

Men said: "The home is woman's sphere." "I had no home," I said. But when the men all marched to war, they cried to wife and maid, "Oh, never mind about your homes, but save the export trade."

For it's "women this," and "women that," and "Home's the place for you," But it's "patriotic angels" when there's outside work to do, There's outside work to do, my dears, there's outside work to do, It's "patriotic angels" when there's outside work to do.

We are not really senseless, and we are not angels, too, But very human beings, human just as much as you. And it's hard upon occasions to be forceful and sublime When we're treated as incompetents three-quarters of the time.

But it's "women this," and "women that," and "woman's like a hen," But it's "do the country's work alone," when war takes off the men, And it's "women this," and "women that," and everything you please But woman is observant, and be sure that woman sees.